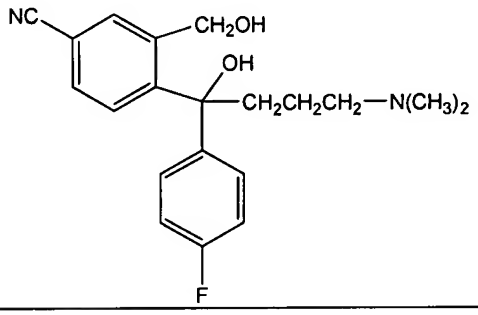
Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

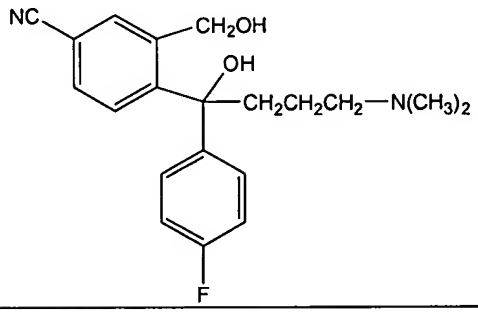
Claims 1 – 25 (cancelled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): A crystalline base of Formula I comprising a crystal of a mixture of both S- and R-enantiomer of Formula I



(I), wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is between 0.5 and 1.5~~The crystalline base of Claim 23~~, wherein its extrapolate starting temperature of the Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) measured melting point is 98.63℃, the peak value is 104.18℃.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A crystalline base of Formula I comprising a crystal of a mixture of both S- and R-enantiomer of Formula I



(I), wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is between 0.5 and 1.5~~The crystalline base of Claim 23~~, wherein its extrapolate starting temperature of the Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) measured melting point is 51.69℃, the peak value is 59.28℃.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method for preparing the crystalline base of Claim 26~~23~~, comprising the steps of:

dissolving a citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance in a single- or multi-component solvent,

crystallizing the citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance one or more times, and

separating and obtaining a citalopram diol intermediate free base crystal.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The method of Claim 28 wherein the solvent is

a single component or a multi-component solvent that can dissolve citalopram diol intermediate free base, or

a mixture of the single component solvent and the multi-component solvent, or

a bi-component or multi-component mixture of water and one or more water soluble solvents that can dissolve citalopram diol intermediate free base.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The method of Claim 28 wherein the solvent is a C_{1-4} alcohol, a bi-component or multi-component mixture of a C_{1-4} alcohol and water, an ~~a C>4~~ ester with more than four carbon atoms, a C_{3-8} hydrocarbon and/or cycloparaffin, or a mixture of an ~~C>3~~ ester with more than three carbon atoms and/or cycloparaffin.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The method of Claim 30 wherein the solvent is a 60%~90% methanol solution, a 60%~90% ethanol solution, an isopropyl ether, or a mixture of isopropyl ether and hexane.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the solvent is a 70% ethanol solution, a mixture of isopropyl ether and hexane (v/v=1:2), or a mixture of isopropyl ether and heptane (v/v=1:2).

Claim 33 (previously presented): The method of Claim 28 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 40°C and the boiling point of the solvent.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The method of Claim 33 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 20°C and 60°C.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The method of Claim 34 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 5 °C and room temperature.

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method for preparing the crystalline base of Claim 26~~23~~, comprising the step of directly crystallizing a citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance to obtain a citalopram diol intermediate free base crystal.

Claims 37 – 55 (cancelled)

Claim 56 (new): The crystalline base of Claim 26, wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is between 0.8 and 1.2.

Claim 57 (new): The crystalline base of Claim 26, wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is 1.0 and the crystalline base is a racemic crystalline base.

Claim 58 (new): The crystalline base of Claim 27, wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is between 0.8 and 1.2.

Claim 59 (new): The crystalline base of Claim 28, wherein the ratio of S- and R-enantiomer is 1.0 and the crystalline base is a racemic crystalline base.

Claim 60 (new): A method for preparing the crystalline base of Claim 27, comprising the steps of:

dissolving a citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance in a single- or multi-component solvent,

crystallizing the citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance one or more times, and

separating and obtaining a citalopram diol intermediate free base crystal.

Claim 61 (new): The method of Claim 60 wherein the solvent is

a single component or a multi-component solvent that can dissolve citalopram diol intermediate free base, or

a mixture of the single component solvent and the multi-component solvent, or

a bi-component or multi-component mixture of water and one or more water soluble solvents that can dissolve citalopram diol intermediate free base.

Claim 62 (new): The method of Claim 60 wherein the solvent is a C_{1-4} alcohol, a bi-component or multi-component mixture of a C_{1-4} alcohol and water, an ester with more than four carbon atoms, a C_{3-8} hydrocarbon and/or cycloparaffin, or a mixture of an ester with more than three carbon atoms and/or cycloparaffin.

Claim 63 (new): The method of Claim 62 wherein the solvent is a 60%~90% methanol solution, a 60%~90% ethanol solution, an isopropyl ether, or a mixture of isopropyl ether and hexane.

Claim 64 (new): The method of Claim 63 wherein the solvent is a 70% ethanol solution, a mixture of isopropyl ether and hexane (v/v=1:2), or a mixture of isopropyl ether and heptane (v/v=1:2).

Claim 65 (new): The method of Claim 60 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 40°C and the boiling point of the solvent.

Claim 66 (new): The method of Claim 65 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 20°C and 60°C.

Claim 67 (new): The method of Claim 66 wherein the crystallization temperature is between – 5 °C and room temperature.

Claim 68 (new): A method for preparing the crystalline base of Claim 27, comprising the step of directly crystallizing a citalopram diol intermediate free base oil substance to obtain a citalopram diol intermediate free base crystal.